Atty. Dkt. No. 023484-015

HE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Toshiyuki MASUDA

Gregory J. Binda

Title:

UNIVERSAL COUPLING WITH AN AIR BLEEDING PASSAGE THAT PROVIDES COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE INSIDE AND OUTSIDE

OF A BOOT (As Amended)

Appl. No.: 10/777,161

Filing Date: 02/13/2004

Confirmation No.: 5102

Examiner:

3679 Art Unit:

AMENDMENT AND REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.116

Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This communication is responsive to the Final Office Action dated January 12, 2006, concerning the above-referenced patent application.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this document.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 4 of this document.

Amendments to the Drawings begin on page 7 of this document, and include an attached replacement drawing sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this document.

Please amend the application as follows: